

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 PA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3354

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LAGOS 9863

FROM USDEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, PARM, US

SUBJECT: LAGOS CONFERENCE: FINAL PLENARY SESSION AUGUST 26

REF: (A) LAGOS 9811, (B) LAGOS 9858, (C) LAGOS 9766

BEGIN SUMMARY. AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION AUGUST 26 BEGAN WITH
ORAL WEO RESERVATIONS ON PARAS OF DECLARATION DEALING WITH NUC-
LEAR COOPERATION, ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AND A CHAPTER 7 ARMS EMBAR-
GO. CONFERENCE COMMISSION REPORT WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN PLENARY.

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CONFERENCE ENDED WITH FIERY SPEECHES BY SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS LEADERS FOLLOWED BY MODERATE, PRATICAL CLOSING
STATEMENT BY GARBA. DIVISIVE DEBATE WAS AVOIDED TO THE LAST,
ALTHOUGH WEOS FELT STEADY PRESSURE ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND
MILITARY LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. NUCLEAR AND ZIONISM
ISSUES SANK NEARLY FROM VIEW. END SUMMARY.

1. CHAIRMAN GARBA OPENED AFTERNOON PROCEEDINGS BY STATING THAT CONFERENCE DECLARATION RECENTLY ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS DID NOT FULLY REFLECT VIEWS OF ALL PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING FMG, BUT REPRESENTED THE WIDEST COMMON GROUND. ACCORDINGLY, A FEW COUNTRIES HAD INDICATED A WISH TO MAKE COMMENTS OR RESERVATIONS ON CERTAIN POINTS.

2. IN A SERIES OF SHORT STATEMENTS, FRANCE RESERVED ON PARAS 24, 26, AND 27 OF DECLARATION, CANADA ON PARA 26; UK ON PARAS 26 AND 27; AND FRG ON PARA 26, WITH A DETAILED NATIONAL STUDY TO BE MADE ON 27. US REP (AMBASSADOR EASUM) RESERVED ON PARAS 24, 26 AND 27, AND ANNOUNCED \$250,000 NAMIBIA FUND IN DELIVERING STATEMENT TRANSMITTED BY REF B. GANG OF FIVE RESERVATIONS DREW MILD HISSES FROM BACK BENCHES BUT ONLY UK PRESENTATION ENDED WITH TOTAL ABSENCE OF COURTESY APPLAUSE. AUSTRALIA WAS APPLAUDED AS FIRST WESTERN NATION TO ANNOUNCE IT HAD NO RESERVATIONS. BELGIUM "ASSOCIATED ITSELF" WITH DECLARATION WITH NON-SPECIFIC RESERVATIONS. ITALY RESERVED ON PARA 26, REMINDING DELEGATES THAT EC-9 WAS NOW CONSIDERING A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ITS ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. SPAIN RESERVED ON PARAS 26 AND 27. PORTUGAL, NETHERLANDS AND GREECE ANNOUNCED SUPPORT FOR DECLARATION WITHOUT RESERVATIONS ON PARAGRAPHS.

3. EGYPTIAN REP (SIDKY?), SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF ARAB DELEGATIONS SAID THAT PARAS 3 AND 33 OF DECLARATION SHOULD BE INTERPRETED AS DENOUNCING ISRAELI/SOUTH AFRICAN LINKS. PARAS 12, 22, 27 AND 34
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SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A COMMITMENT BY ALL TO ASSIST LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, INCLUDING ASSISTANCE FOR ARMED STRUGGLE. HE SAID THAT THE CONFERENCE COMMISSION REPORT (WHICH CONTAINED NUMBER OF PROPOSALS UNACCEPTABLE TO US (LAGOS 9770) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONFERENCE AND CALLED UPON ALL NATIONS TO IMPLEMENT ITS PRESCRIPTIONS FOR ACTION.

4. FOLLOWING SPEECH OF APPRECIATION BY HARRIMAN, GARBA ADDRESSED ISSUE OF COMMISSION REPORT OF CONFERENCE (FULL TEXT TO BE HANDCARRIED TO WASHINGTON BY DELOFF TEFFT). THREADING HIS WAY THROUGH MINEFIELD, GARBA STATED THAT UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID WOULD CONSIDER COMMISSION REPORT IMMEDIATELY AND WOULD MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO 32ND UNGA. SPECIAL COMMITTEE ALSO PROMISED TO DISTRIBUTE REPORT WIDELY. ACCORDINGLY, AND BECAUSE REPORT CONSISTED OF PROPOSALS RATHER THAN DECISIONS, STEERING COMMITTEE HAD DECIDED THAT THERE WAS NO NEED TO DISCUSS THE REPORT IN PLENARY SESSION. GARBA HAD ANNOUNCED THIS POSITION PREVIOUS DAY BUT RADICAL ATTEMPTS TO TURN DECISION AROUND LEFT ISSUE IN DOUBT (AT LEAST IN OUR MINDS) UNTIL LAST SECOND.

5. FOLLOWING GARBA'S SKILLFUL FINESSE OF POTENTIALLY DIVISIVE

DEBATE, DELEGATES REPRESENTING WORLD'S REGIONS EACH GAVE SHORT SPEECH OF APPRECIATION. BALANCING FAVOR DONE WEO'S ON COMMISSIA ON REPORT, GARBA THEN CALLED ON ANC/GOUTH AFRICA REP (NOKWE) AND PAC REP (SIBEKO). EACH THUDERED AGAINST PERFIDY OF WEST, CLAIMING THAT CONFERENCE HAD TRULY DISCOVERED THE ENEMIES OF THOSE FIGHTING APARTHEID IN THE ONES WHO NOW SOUGHT TO WATER DOWN THE MILITANCY OF CONFERENCE.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LAGOS 9863

FROM USDEL

WEST COULD ABSOLVE ITSELF OF ITS CRIMES ONLY BY TAKING DIRECT ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID. COVERING ALL HIS BASES, NOLWE REFUTED HOLY SEE REP BY QUOTING ST. PAUL'S ENDORSEMENT OF ARMED STRUGGLE.

6. CHAIRMAN GARBA ENDED CONFERENCE WITH MODERATE, PRACTICAL SPEECH ON EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO COMBAT APARTHEID. THE CHOICE, HE SAID, WAS BETWEEN PEACEFUL CHANGE AND VIOLENT CHANGE. IF

THROUGH PRESSURE THE WORLD COULD FORCE SENSE INTO SOUTH AFRICANS
THEN THERE COULD STILL BE TIME TO AVOID CONFLAGRATION.GARBA
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CHIDED DELEGATES FOR THE "BIG GAP BETWEEN WORDS AND ACTIONS." MANY
GOVERNMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS SAY THE RIGHT THINGS BUT DO OTHERWISE.
GARBA SAID THAT EVIDENCE PRESENTED BY ANTI-APARTHEID GROUPS
CLEARLY PROVED CONTINUING WESTERN SUPPORT FOR RACISTS,
ESPECIALLY IN SUPPLY OF ARMS. GARBA SAID IT WAS STILL NOT TOO LATE
FOR THOSE WHO THUS SUPPORTED APARTHEID TO PAUSE AND
RECONSIDER THEIR ACTIONS.

7. COMMENT: CONFERENCE ENDED ON THE SAME MAJOR THEMES IT
HAD CONTINUED TO EXAMINE ALL WEEK:
--A STEADY, MOSTLY POLITE CRITICISM OF WESTERN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC
AND MILITARY SUPPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA;
-- A STONG COMMITMENT TO ARMED STRUGGLE AMONG MANY AFRICAN AND
SOCIALIST STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS, AND RELUCTANT ENDORSEMENT OF
VIOLENT MEANS BY MANY OTHERS.
--WESTERN CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID ACCOMPANIED BY ILLUSTRATIONS
OF DIMINISHING LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.
OF FURTHER NOTE WAS THE LOW LEVEL OF CONFERENCE RADIATION
ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUED TODAY AND THE VIRTUAL ABSENCE OF ATTEMPTS
TO EQUATE ZIONISM WITH APARTHEID.

8. ON PROCEDURE, OUR EFFORTS FAILED AT ELIMINATING THE
REQUIREMENT FOR RESERVATIONS TO BE MADE ORALLY BUT, SINCE
RADICAL AFRICANS CHOSE (OR WERE PRESSURED) NOT TO ENTER
RESERVATIONS IN THE OTHER DIRECTION, NEGATIVE EFFECT OR ORAL WESTERN
RESERVATIONS WAS MINIMIZED. WHILE NIGERIANS COULD NOT DELIVER FOR
USON THAT ONE, GARBA'S SUCCESS IN BEATING BACK ATTEMPTS TO
ASSOCIATE COMMISSION REPORT WITH PLENARY DELIBERATIONS SAVED US
FROM WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN A RUDE AFTERNOON.
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